

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

13

May 20, 2003

FROM: PETER R. HILLS, Fire Chief/Fire Warden, San Bernardino County
Consolidated Fire District

**SUBJECT: SUBMISSION OF GRANT APPLICATION TO THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
EMERGENCY SERVICES AS THE ADMINISTERING AGENCY FOR THE U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, FY03 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT
PROGRAM**

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Acting as the governing body of the San Bernardino County Operational Area (OA), ratify the action of Bill Postmus, Vice-Chairman of the Board of Supervisors that authorized Peter R. Hills, Fire Chief/Fire Warden to submit a grant application in the amount of \$1,727,355 to the Governor's Office of Emergency Services as the Administering Agency for the U.S. Department of Justice, FY03 State Homeland Security Grant Program.
2. Adopt Resolution Number _____ to authorize Peter R. Hills, Fire Chief/Fire Warden, and Denise L. Benson, Division Manager, County Fire Department/Office of Emergency Services to take whatever actions are necessary under the State Preparedness Program grant to execute and file the documents on behalf of the County.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Since 1999, funds have been received from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP) for terrorism risk and capability assessments and eligible equipment for Emergency First Responders.

Federal FY 2003 funding for anti-terrorism readiness continues and the current grant application is for the FY03 Homeland Security Grant to increase the capability in San Bernardino County for responding to Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD). The grant amount is \$1,727,355 with \$1,276,969 allocated for equipment, \$321,734 allocated for exercises, and \$128,653 allocated for Planning and Administration. If the County is successful in receiving these grant funds, the Planning and Administration funding will support the retention of a contract employee to manage this two year grant and perform other duties related to the update of the County Terrorism Needs Assessment, such as interagency coordination. The equipment and exercise funding will be utilized by various agencies throughout the OA, such as the law enforcement agencies, fire protection districts, Public Health, and Hazardous Materials Responders. Amounts for equipment, exercises and planning/administration are estimates from the Governor's Office of Emergency Services and are subject to slight changes; however, the total amount of the grant is confirmed and will not change.

The State Office of Homeland Security directed that all Operational Areas form an Anti-terrorism Approval Body (Approval Authority) to determine how funds from this grant will be spent. Members consist of the County Public Health Officer, the County Fire Chief, a Municipal Fire

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13

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PAGE 2**

Chief (selected by the OA Fire Chiefs), the County Sheriff and a Chief of Police (selected by the OA Police Chiefs). This Approval Authority has met and has agreed upon how funds will be dispersed. Fire services, police services and emergency medical services will receive 20% each with 40% discretionary funds being dispersed among the three services.

The attached grant application includes a program narrative, and budget detail worksheets defining all proposed purchases and distributions within the County/Operational Area.

The deadline for grant submittals was May 14, 2003, and the State Office of Homeland Security allowed a short timeframe to submit the grant application. In order to meet this deadline Bill Postmus, Vice-Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, in the absence of Dennis Hansberger, Chairman, authorized Peter R. Hills, Fire Chief/Fire Warden, and Denise L. Benson, Division Manager, Fire Department/Office of Emergency Services to take whatever actions are necessary to execute and file the documents on behalf of the County to complete the grant application. This request is to ratify Vice-Chairman Postmus' action.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: This item has been reviewed by County Counsel (Deputy Dennis Tilton) on May 9, 2003, and the County Administrative Office, (Wayne Thies, Administrative Analyst) on May 9, 2003.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: The grant fully covers all equipment costs, exercise, and planning/administrative costs, and there are no matching fund requirements. Payments for expenditures approved in the grant will be on a reimbursement basis. The sub-grantees (such as fire districts) will request reimbursement for expenditures through the County Fire Department on a periodic basis. The Fire Department would then request reimbursement from the State. Implementation of the FY03 Homeland Security Grant Program is contingent upon receiving grant funding, and any budgetary adjustments will be presented in conjunction with a future agenda item recommending acceptance of the grant.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS: All Districts

PRESENTERS: Peter R. Hills (909) 387-5974
Denise L. Benson (909) 356-3998